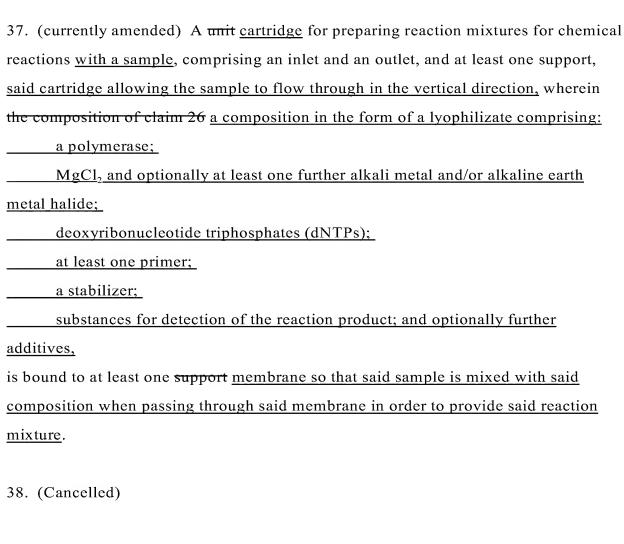
Amendments to the Claims:

1-36. (Cancelled)



39. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 37, wherein said chemical reaction is the polymerase chain reaction.

40 - 41. (Cancelled)

42. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 37, wherein a device for applying elevated pressure or reduced pressure is provided.

- 43. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 37, wherein a capillary is attached above the inlet.
- 44. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 37, wherein one or more additional membranes or supports are present between the inlet and the support to which the composition of claim 1 is bound.
- 45. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 44, wherein 4 additional membranes are present between the inlet and the support to which the composition of claim I is bound.
- 46. (currently amended) The unit <u>cartridge</u> of claim 37, wherein at least one additional support is designed so that polynucleotides can be bound thereto.
- 47. (currently amended) The unit <u>cartridge</u> of claim 46, wherein said additional support is a membrane.
- 48. (currently amended) The unit <u>cartridge</u> of claim 46, wherein said additional support is designed by providing diethylaminoethyl groups.
- 49. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 47, wherein said additional membrane is impregnated with a substance which increases the surface tension of a liquid.
- 50. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 49, wherein said substance which increases the surface tension of a liquid is a polydimethylsiloxane.
- 51. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 44, wherein a substance which absorbs solids is provided in the space between two membranes.

- 52. (Cancelled)
- 53. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 44, wherein the additional membrane located closest to the inlet is impregnated with a lysing agent.
- 54. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 37, wherein a unit for supplying a liquid is provided above the support provided for binding polynucleotides.
- 55. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 54, wherein said liquid is an eluent.
- 56. (currently amended) The unit cartridge of claim 37 54, wherein said unit for supplying a liquid is separated from the interior of the unit by a membrane, which can be made permeable on application of reduced pressure.
- 57 65. (Cancelled)
- 66. (currently amended) A device for preparing reaction mixtures for chemical reactions, comprising

at least one unit cartridge according to claim 37;

- at least one reaction device which is connected via an aperture to the outlet of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ and, after charging with a reaction mixture, can be separated from the sample preparation device.
- 67. (previously presented) The device of claim 66, wherein said chemical reaction is the polymerase chain reaction.
- 68. (currently amended) The device of claim 66, wherein said device comprises three unit cartridges.

- 69. (Cancelled).
- 70. (currently amended) The device of claim 66, wherein said at least one reaction device can, after the charging with a reaction mixture, be taken out of the sample preparation device and transferred into a device for carrying out and, where appropriate, optionally evaluating said chemical reaction.
- 71. (currently amended) The device of claim 66, further comprising a device for carrying out and evaluating a chemical reaction, wherein said at least one unit cartridge can, after charging of said reaction device, be separated from the remaining device.
- 72. (previously presented) The device of claim 71, wherein said chemical reaction is the polymerase chain reaction.
- 73 74. (Cancelled)